

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANTO 02762 230435Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00
SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 HA-05
ACDA-12 /095 W

-----083835 230440Z /17

O 230400Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4648
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PORT
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 2762

CARACAS FOR ROBERT PASTOR, NSC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PEPR, PINS, DR
SUBJECT: THE PRD'S EFFORTS TO REASSURE MILITARY/GOVT PERSONNEL, AND
GUZMAN'S DEVELOPING PERSONALITY AS LEADER

REFS: SANTO DOMINGO 2759; SANTO DOMINGO 2760

1. REFTELS REPORT RECENT STATEMENTS BY PRD PRESIDENTIAL
CANDIDATE WHICH APPEAR TO HAVE HIM TAKING CHARGE OF HIS
OWN PARTY, SOMETHING MANY ARTICULATE DOMINICANS FELT HE
COULD NEVER DO AS LONG AS CHARISMATIC SECGEN PENA GOMEZ
HELD CENTER STATE OF ATTENTION AS PARTY'S MAXIMUM LEADER.

2. BOTH STATEMENTS SPECIFY SHARPLY THAT HENCEFORTH
ONLY GUZMAN WILL SPEAK FOR THE PARTY.

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THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN UNHEARD OF WHEN THE PARTY WAS,
AS MANY SAY HERE NOW, "THE OPPOSITION".

3. THE REFORMISTA "DISINFORMATION" EFFORT, WILL LIKELY CALL THIS A
SHAM.

EMBASSY'S CONTACTS WITH GUZMAN AND HIS FAMILY SINCE
EARLY IN THE EVENING TUESDAY, MAY 16,

WHEN IT APPEARED HE WAS WINNING, LEAVE
THE IMPRESSION THAT IN FACT HE HAS ASSERTED HIMSELF AND
IS TAKING CHARGE. HE SOUNDS VERY MUCH LIKE AND APPEARS TO
BE, AT LEAST IN HIS OWN MIND, "PRESIDENT-ELECT GUZMAN."

4. MEANWHILE, HIS EFFORTS TO REASSURE THE GOVERNMENT
AND THE MILITARY THAT HIS POLICIES ARE MODERATE SEEM TO
BE REFLECTED BY HIS RUNNING MATE, JACOBO MAJLUTA, ALMOST
TO AN EXTREME DEGREE. MAJLUTA WAS ON RADIO THIS MORNING
BEING INTERVIEWED ABOUT THE EVENTS OF MAY 16-17 IN WHICH
HE ALMOST SEEMED TO BE RATIONALIZING THE MILITARY'S
BEHAVIOR. AT THE VERY LEEAST, HE SEEMED TO BE EXPLAINING
THAT POLICE CHIEF NEIT NIVAR AND OTHER MILITARY OFFICERS
HAD TO BE EXCUSED FOR THE "INTERRUPTION" OF THE VOTE-
COUNT, SINCE THEY WERE BEING DRIVEN "PRACTICALLY CRAZY"
BY DESPERATE AND UNSCRUPULOUS POLITICIANS WHO HAD AROUSED
THEM WITH "LIES ABOUT SUPPOSED DANGERS TO THE ARMED FORCES."

5. WHILE MAJLUTA MAY NOT BE FAR OFF IN HIS ANALYSIS OF
WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED THAT NIGHT, HE AND ALL OTHER PRD
LEADERS IN PRIVATE ARE IN NO WAY WHATEVER SO UNDERSTANDING
AND CHARITABLE ABOUT HOW THEY VIEW THE MILITARY
INTERVENTION, AND MOST PARTICULARLY NIVAR'S ROLE IN
THE AFFAIR.
YOST

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